

as the Department may deem proper for their discharge under such proper and humane rules and regulations as the Board may adopt.

G. S. 122-69.1. Objects and Aims of Centers for Mentally Retarded. The residential centers shall have the following general aims and objects:

(1) provide facilities and programs for those who cannot be contained in the community because of medical or psychosocial reasons;

(2) provide conditions which allow those admitted full development—emotionally, physically, and intellectually;

(3) provide medical care, educational opportunities, training in social and occupational skills, and opportunities for freedom and happiness to minimize the effects of the mental handicap;

(4) maintain facilities for evaluation and diagnosis, for cooperating with other agencies in instructing the public in the care of the mentally handicapped at home, and for aftercare of discharged residents from the centers;

(5) develop a therapeutic residential program that will be coordinated with an over-all State program;

(6) disseminate knowledge concerning the causation, prevention, nature and treatment of the mentally handicapped;

(7) engage in training and research in the field of the mentally handicapped;

(8) cooperate with all agencies—Federal, State or local in the further attainment of these objects.

G. S. 122-70. Admissions to Centers for Mentally Retarded. Application for the admission of a child under 21 years of age must be made by the father if the mother and father are living together, and if not, by the one having custody, or by a duly appointed guardian. Otherwise, the State Department of Mental Health is authorized and empowered to promulgate rules, regulations and conditions of admission of children and adults to the centers.

G. S. 122-71. Financial Responsibility. In cases in which the parents or guardian of a child being admitted to a center are financially able, or in which an adult being admitted is financially able, the Department shall require such parents or guardian or adult to transport the child or adult to the appropriate center and make such contribution toward his maintenance as may seem just and proper to the Department.

G. S. 122-71.1. Discharge of Patients. Any person admitted to a center may be discharged therefrom or returned to his or her parents or guardian when requested by the parents or guardian or when, in the judgment of the State Department of Mental Health, it will not be beneficial to such person or to the best interest of the center that such person be retained longer therein.

G. S. 122-71.2. Offenses Relating to Patients. For the protection of the persons residing in the centers, it shall be unlawful for any person not a patient of a center for the mentally retarded:

(1) to advise, or solicit, or to offer to advise or solicit, any patient of said centers to leave without authority;